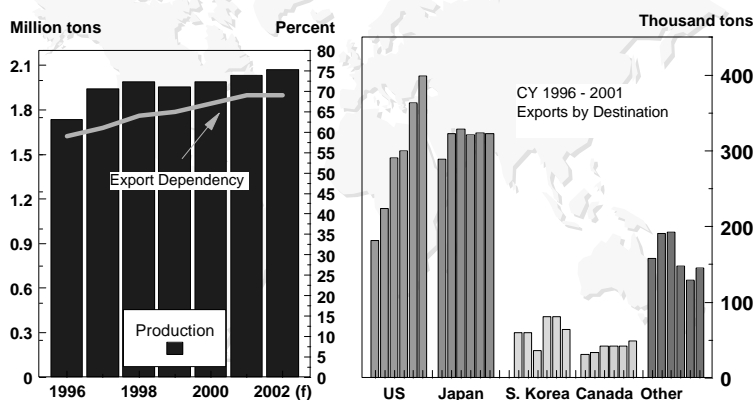


Australia's Cattle and Beef Situation

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (p)	2002 (f)
Cattle (1,000 head)							
Total Supply*	36,417	36,880	36,680	36,880	37,241	38,850	39,880
Slaughter	7,970	9,161	9,324	8,759	8,642	8,739	8,960
Exports	743	948	618	844	896	861	870
Beef (1,000 tons; carcass weight equivalent)							
Production	1,736	1,942	1,989	1,956	1,988	2,034	2,070
Exports	1,026	1,184	1,268	1,270	1,338	1,395	1,425
Consumption	705	755	712	722	660	645	650

* Total supply = beginning inventories + calf crop + imports.

Australia to Export Record Volumes of Beef to the World and the United States in 2002



Australia's beef production is forecast to again exceed 2 million tons in 2002. The world's largest beef exporter, Australia's beef exports are forecast to reach a record 1.4 million tons in 2002 as their market presence outside of the United States and Japan expands in Canada, Korea, and Mexico. Australia has led the world in beef exports for more than a decade, with three quarters of its exports shipped to the United States and Japan in 2001. Australia displaced the United States as Japan's number one beef supplier in 2001 for the first time since 1995 and filled its U.S. import quota. Australia is expected to fill the U.S. quota again in 2002. Traditionally a supplier of grass-fed beef, Australia is expanding grain-fed production of cattle. According to industry estimates, grain-fed production now represents 25 percent of total beef output. Building upon its success, Australia is intensifying its competition with U.S. product throughout Asia and North America with market promotion activities targeting China, Korea, and Japan. U.S. beef exports to Australia totaled \$1.48 million in 2001.